

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for the preparation of a powder coating composition, comprising the steps of:

- 5 copolymerizing 5-90 % by weight of at least one monomeric compound selected from the group consisting of glycidyl group-containing unsaturated compounds and methylglycidyl group-containing unsaturated compounds with 95-10 % by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated monomer in methanol to obtain a resin solution; and  
10 spray-drying said resin solution to obtain a powdery resin.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said methanol is present in said resin solution in an amount of 5-99.99 % by weight.

3. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said glycidyl group-containing unsaturated compounds are selected from the group consisting of glycidyl acrylate and glycidyl methacrylate and said methylglycidyl group-containing unsaturated compounds are selected from the group consisting of methylglycidyl acrylate and methylglycidyl methacrylate.

- 25 4. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ethyleneically unsaturated monomer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl acrylates, alkyl methacrylates, cycloalkyl acrylates, cycloalkyl methacrylates, hydroxyalkyl acrylates, hydroxyalkyl methacrylates, styrene,  $\alpha$ -alkylstyrenes, acrylonitrile, acrylamide and methacrylamide.

- 35 5. A process as claimed in claim 1, further comprising, before said spray-drying step, mixing said resin solution

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with at least one member selected from the group consisting of curing agents, pigments and additives.

6. A process as claimed in claim 1, further comprising,  
5 before said spray-drying step, mixing said resin solution with a methanol solution or dispersion containing at least one member selected from the group consisting of curing agents, pigments and additives using a continuous mixer.
- 10 7. A process for the preparation of a powder coating composition, comprising the steps of:  
copolymerizing 5-90 % by weight of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of glycidyl group-containing unsaturated compounds and methylglycidyl  
15 group-containing unsaturated compounds with 95-10 % by weight of an ethylenically unsaturated monomer in methanol to obtain a resin solution;  
feeding said resin solution to an extruder having a die and a plurality of bent ports;  
20 while removing volatile matters existing in said resin solution in said extruder from said extruder through said bent ports, extruding said resin solution through said die to obtain extrudates; and  
pulverizing said extrudates.
- 25 8. A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein said methanol is present in said resin solution in an amount of 5-99.99 % by weight.
- 30 9. A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein said glycidyl group-containing unsaturated compounds are selected from the group consisting of glycidyl acrylate and glycidyl methacrylate and said methylglycidyl group-containing unsaturated compounds are selected from the  
35 group consisting of methylglycidyl acrylate and
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methylglycidyl methacrylate.

10. A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein said ethyleneically unsaturated monomer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkyl acrylates, alkyl methacrylates, cycloalkyl acrylates, cycloalkyl methacrylates, hydroxyalkyl acrylates, hydroxyalkyl methacrylates, styrene,  $\alpha$ -alkylstyrenes, acrylonitrile, acrylamide and methacrylamide.
- 15 11. A process as claimed in claim 7, further comprising, before said feeding step, mixing said resin solution with at least one member selected from the group consisting of curing agents, pigments and additives.
- 20 12. A process as claimed in claim 7, further comprising, before said feeding step, mixing said solution with a methanol solution or dispersion containing at least one member selected from the group consisting of curing agents, pigments and additives using a continuous mixer.